

Amendments to the Specification:

Please amend the paragraph in the Specification at page 1, lines 4-12 as follows:

This application is a continuation of US Application No. 10/288,425 filed November 6, 2002, issued as US Patent No. 6,652,881; which is a continuation of US Application No. 10/126,875 filed April 22, 2002, issued as US Patent No. 6,589,552; which is a continuation of US Application No. 10/078,500 filed February 21, 2002, issued as US Patent No. 6,596,317; which is a continuation of US Application No. 09/899,026 filed July 6, 2001, issued as US Patent No. 7,037,529; which is a continuation of US Application No. 09/572,330 filed May 18, 2000, issued as US Patent No. 6,277,405; which is a continuation of US Application No. 09/005,128 filed January 9, 1998, issued as US Patent No. 6,074,670; which claims priority to French Application No. 97 00 479 filed January 17, 1997. This application is also a continuation of US Application No. 10/290,333 filed November 8, 2002.